

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 515

To require State agencies to register all offenders convicted of any acts involving child abuse with the National Crime Information Center of the Department of Justice.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 21, 1993

Mr. HOBSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To require State agencies to register all offenders convicted of any acts involving child abuse with the National Crime Information Center of the Department of Justice.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “National Child Abuser  
5       Registration Act of 1993”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       For the purposes of this Act—

1           (1) the term “child” means a person who is a  
2       child for the purposes of the criminal child abuse  
3       law of a State;

4           (2) the term “child abuse” means the physical,  
5       psychological, or emotional injuring, sexual abuse or  
6       exploitation, neglectful treatment, or maltreatment  
7       of a child by any person in violation of the criminal  
8       child abuse law of a State;

9           (3) the term “child abuser information” means  
10      the following facts concerning a person who has vio-  
11      lated the criminal child abuse laws of a State:

12               (A) name, social security number, age,  
13              race, sex, date of birth, height, weight, hair and  
14              eye color, address of legal residence, and a brief  
15              description of the crime or crimes committed by  
16              the offender; and

17               (B) any other information that the Federal  
18              Bureau of Investigation or the National Crime  
19              Information Center determines may be useful in  
20              identifying child abusers;

21           (4) the term “criminal child abuse law of a  
22       State” means the law of a State that establishes  
23       criminal penalties for the commission of child abuse  
24       by a parent or other family member of a child or by  
25       any other person;

1           (5) the term “National Crime Information Cen-  
2           ter” means the division of the Federal Bureau of In-  
3           vestigation that serves as a computerized informa-  
4           tion source on wanted criminals, persons named in  
5           arrest warrants, runaways, missing children, and  
6           stolen property for use by Federal, State, and local  
7           law enforcement authorities; and

8           (6) the term “State” means each of the States,  
9           the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of  
10          Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands,  
11          Guam, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific.

12 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

13          The Congress finds that—

14               (1) disturbing increases have occurred in recent  
15               years in the number of children who are abused by  
16               persons who have previously committed crimes of  
17               child abuse;

18               (2) many children who run away from home,  
19               who fall prey to pornography and prostitution, who  
20               suffer from a dependency on alcohol and drugs, and  
21               who become juvenile offenders, have been victims of  
22               child abuse;

23               (3) research has shown that child abuse tends  
24               to repeat itself, and many parents who abuse their  
25               children were once victims themselves;

1           (4) in recognition of the increased cases of child  
2       abuse, several States have established agencies to re-  
3       ceive and maintain data relating to cases of child  
4       abuse;

5           (5) currently there exists no centralized na-  
6       tional source through which a law enforcement agen-  
7       cy can obtain data relating to persons who have  
8       committed crimes of child abuse;

9           (6) partly because of the lack of available and  
10      accurate information at the national level, persons  
11      who have committed acts of child abuse in one State  
12      have been able to go to another State to commit the  
13      crime again, in many cases in a position of authority  
14      over children; and

15          (7) the Nation cannot afford to ignore the im-  
16      portance of preventing child abuse.

17 **SEC. 4. PURPOSES.**

18      The purposes of this Act are—

19          (1) to establish a national system through  
20      which current, accurate information concerning per-  
21      sons who commit crimes of child abuse can be ob-  
22      tained from a centralized source;

23          (2) to assist in the prevention of second inci-  
24      dents of child abuse by providing information about  
25      persons who have been convicted of a crime of child

1 abuse to organizations whose primary concern is  
2 that of child welfare and care; and

3 (3) to understand the problem of child abuse in  
4 the United States by providing statistical and infor-  
5 mational data to the Department of Justice, the Na-  
6 tional Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, the Con-  
7 gress, and other interested parties.

8 **SEC. 5. REPORTING BY THE STATES.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—A State which reports the convic-  
10 tions of named individuals to the Federal Bureau of Inves-  
11 tigation shall include all convictions for child abuse as de-  
12 fined under this Act.

13 (b) GUIDELINES.—The Attorney General shall estab-  
14 lish guidelines for the reporting of child abuser informa-  
15 tion, including procedures for carrying out the purposes  
16 of this Act.

17 (c) ANNUAL SUMMARY.—The Attorney General shall  
18 publish an annual statistical summary of the child abuser  
19 information reported under this Act.

20 **SEC. 6. STATE COMPLIANCE.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall have 3 years  
22 from the date of the enactment of this section in which  
23 to implement the provisions of section 5.

24 (b) INELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDS.—The allocations of  
25 funds under section 506 of title I of the Omnibus Crime

1 Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3756)  
2 received by a State not complying with the provisions of  
3 section 5, 3 years after the date of the enactment of this  
4 Act shall be reduced by 25 percent and the unallocated  
5 funds shall be reallocated to the States in compliance with  
6 this section.

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